

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred Senate Bill No. 53
3 entitled “An act relating to a universal, publicly financed primary care system”
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5 bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in
6 lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. UNIVERSAL COVERAGE FOR PRIMARY CARE; REPORT

8 (a) The Green Mountain Care Board shall convene interested stakeholders
9 with applicable subject matter expertise to develop recommendations on all of
10 the following:

11 (1) A statutory definition of the health care services, including mental
12 health and substance use disorder services, that constitute primary care
13 services. The definition may be based on the services on which a health
14 insurance plan imposes a primary care co-payment, as well as those services on
15 which a plan would impose a primary care co-payment in the absence of a
16 federal requirement for first dollar coverage.

17 (2) How to achieve universal coverage for primary care services for all
18 Vermonters, whether the services are publicly financed or covered by health
19 insurance or other means.

1 (3) How to make coverage for primary care services affordable for all
2 Vermonters, such as through income-sensitized, State-funded cost-sharing
3 assistance.

4 (b) The Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Financial
5 Regulation shall cooperate with and provide legal assistance to the Green
6 Mountain Care Board in identifying and analyzing any potential legal issues
7 with achieving universal coverage for primary care in Vermont and in
8 developing proposals to address any legal issues identified.

9 (c) On or before January 15, 2019, the Green Mountain Care Board and the
10 stakeholders shall provide the recommendations and proposals developed
11 pursuant this section and any proposals for legislative action to the House
12 Committees on Appropriations and on Health Care and the Senate Committees
13 on Appropriations, on Health and Welfare, and on Finance.

14 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect on passage.

16 and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating
17 to recommendations for achieving universal coverage for primary care in
18 Vermont”

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1 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE